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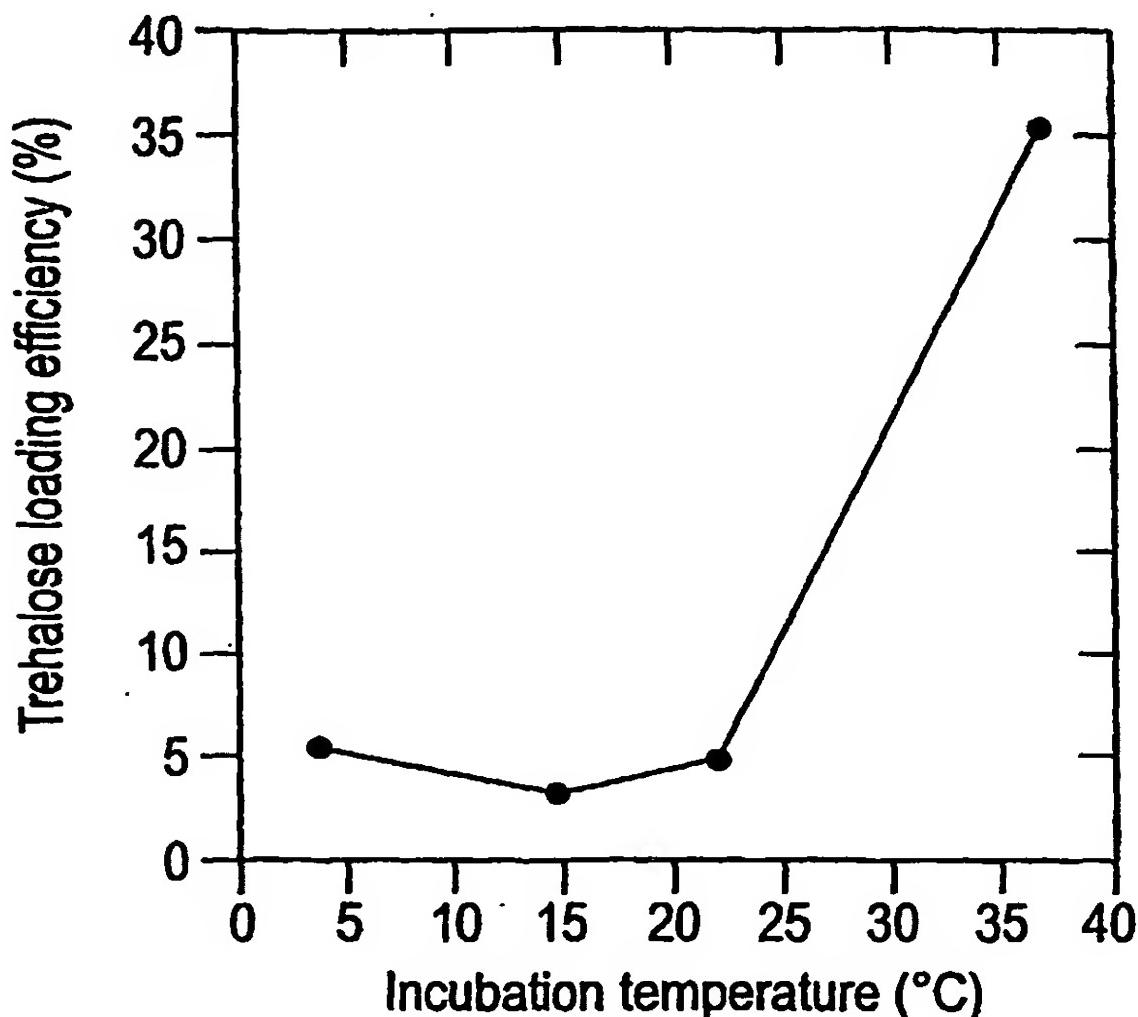
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(54) Title: THERAPEUTIC PLATELETS AND METHODS



(57) Abstract: The invention provides methods for loading a preservative into blood platelets comprising providing a preservative solution having a preservative, water and protein, and loading blood platelets with the preservative solution to produce preservative-loaded blood platelets having the preservative solution generally including higher glass transition temperatures than glass transition temperatures for a preservative solution having the preservative, water and no protein. A process for processing blood platelets comprising suspending blood platelets in a preservative solution at a concentration greater than about 108 platelets per ml. of preservative solution to produce preservative-loaded blood platelets, freeze-drying the preservative-loaded blood platelets, and recovering at least 75% of the freeze-dried platelets. A platelet composition comprising blood platelets loaded with a preservative

solution having a preservative, water, and protein, and generally further having higher glass transition temperatures than glass transition temperatures for blood platelets loaded with the preservative, water, but no protein.

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